

children. She understands the value of literacy and has implemented many new programs to encourage reading, including a summer program that gives each a child a free book. Ms. Teresa has expressed her concern that for many of her students, books are scarce at home and the break from school puts many students behind their peers. This type of understanding and consideration of a student's living situation has allowed Ms. Teresa to reach out to each child and cater to their interests and needs. She also manages a student book club with more than 60 students and personally acquaints herself with each new text before giving it to a child to ensure that it is appropriate for their reading level and interests. Ms. Teresa derives her inspiration from the hope that her push towards literacy will encourage students to continue their education and make better choices down the line. Her efforts have also been recognized in Monterey County, where she was recently awarded the "2003 Monterey County Lighthouse for Literacy."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to honor the accomplishments of Donna Teresa and express sincere gratitude for her commitment to our community's children. I wish Ms. Teresa much success in her endeavors and I am confident that the efforts of those who strive to improve literacy will be valued for many generations to come.

NO ATTAINMENT—NO TRADE BILL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "No Attainment—No Trade bill."

This legislation amends the Clean Air Act to prohibit power plants and other major point sources of nitrogen oxide (NO_x) pollution that are in an ozone nonattainment area from participating in EPA's emission trading program.

In 1990 Congress passed amendments to the Clean Air Act to deal with the issue of acid rain deposition.

Harmful acid rain was destroying our buildings, personal property and turning freshwater lakes into dead zones.

The new law established an innovative emission trading program to reduce the precursors of acid rain, harmful nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxides emitted by coal-burning power plants and major industrial boilers.

Since its establishment, the trading program has worked extremely well, better than even proponents of the 1990 amendment to the Clean Air Act ever expected.

While nitrogen and sulphur dioxides have been reduced, and reduced by millions of tons, an unanticipated new wrinkle has emerged as states and localities work to reduce urban smog and bring ozone non-attainment areas into compliance with other requirements in the Clean Air Act.

States and localities are bumping into the emission trading program for nitrogen oxides.

Not only are nitrogen oxides the precursors of acid rain, they also mix with hydrocarbons and form ground-level ozone.

Giving power plants in an ozone non-attainment area the authority to buy a credit from elsewhere and avoid nitrogen oxide reductions may help EPA meet its national acid rain reduction goals, but it can frustrate State and local efforts to lower ozone and urban smog. I speak from experience.

Just across the Potomac River in Alexandria we have one power plant operated by Mirant that continues to violate its permit.

In fact, this past summer during the ozone season it violated its clean air emission limits by more than 1,000 tons of nitrogen oxide, double the tonnage allowed under its permit.

It my understanding that Mirant is trying to get off the hook by purchasing credits of emission reductions from sources elsewhere, outside this region, to meet its emission reduction goal.

"Not so," says the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The State's position, however, may be on less than firm legal ground.

I hope the Commonwealth holds its ground and stands strong, and I have encouraged them to do so.

The legislation I am introducing gives them the clear legal authority they need and discourages power plants from challenging State ozone implementation plans in court.

I also hope this legislation will give other States the authority they need to block power plants in a non-attainment area from engaging in NO_x emission trading and avoiding their responsibility to reduce ozone and urban smog.

It is my understanding that Mirant, the same company operating the plant in Alexandria, has violated its NO_x permits at its three coal-fired plants in Maryland.

During this summer's ozone season, Chalk Point, Morgantown and Dickerson power plants collectively exceeded their summer NO_x permits by more than 3,500 tons.

Unlike Virginia, State officials in Maryland appear inclined to let them buy credits through the emission trading program.

That's an additional 4,600 tons of nitrogen oxide that entered our air this past summer beyond what Virginia and Maryland agreed Mirant should emit.

It makes no sense, to force this region, or the jurisdictions of any ozone nonattainment area, to rachet down nitrogen oxides from other sources, beyond what may be necessary, simply because a few large sources are able to buy their way out of compliance.

It isn't fair, and it is not in anyone's best interest to do so.

My legislation puts an end to it.

It deserves consideration.

ESTABLISHING NATIONAL AVIATION HERITAGE AREA

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 280 the National Aviation Heritage Area Act which includes in Title VI the Upper Housatonic Valley

National Heritage Area Act. The Upper Housatonic Valley, encompassing 29 towns in the hilly terrain of western Massachusetts and northwestern Connecticut, is a singular geographical and cultural region that has made significant national contributions through its literacy, artistic, musical, and architectural achievements, its iron, paper, and electrical equipment industries and its scenic beautification and environmental conservation efforts.

The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area would extend from Lanesboro, Massachusetts 60 miles north to Kent, Connecticut. This region of New England is home to many of the Nation's first industrial iron sites. The iron produced at these sites was used to make weapons for the Revolutionary War. Furthermore, the area includes homes of historical significance belonging to Edith Wharton and author Herman Melville as well as the Monument Mountain Reservation, where Melville and Nathaniel Hawthorne picnicked. The area also has great outdoor recreational resources and is the base for much of Connecticut's agri-tourism business.

From the 1730s to the 1920s, it was home to many of the Nation's earliest iron industries. The first blast furnace was built in 1762 by Ethan Allen and supplied the iron for the cannons that helped George Washington's army to win the American Revolutionary War. While most of the furnaces, mine sites and charcoal pits have been lost to development and time, the few that remain are in need of refurbishment. The Beckley Furnace in Canaan, Connecticut was designated an official project by the Millennium Committee to Save America's Treasures.

The Valley's history as a cultural retreat from the Boston and New York areas provides both past and current riches for the country. Since the 1930s visitors from all over have come to hear the music at Tanglewood, Music Mountain and Norfolk, see the paintings at the Norman Rockwell Museum, watch serious theater at Stockbridge and musical treats at Sharon. Today's local authors draw on a long tradition going back to the 19th century, when Herman Melville, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Edith Wharton lived and wrote here. The Upper Housatonic Area, with its remoteness from but ties to large cities, occupy a special niche in our national culture.

The Housatonic Valley is also rich with environmental and recreational treasures. The Housatonic River, just below Falls Village, Connecticut, is one of the prized fly-fishing centers in the Northeast and is enjoyed by fisherman from not only Connecticut and Massachusetts but the entire eastern seaboard. Olympic rowers have trained in this river as children have learned to swim, boat and fish and value its ecosystem.

Through this broad, flexible and locally led initiative, the states of Connecticut and Massachusetts will be able to make real progress in protecting the river and its heritage. Rather than depending on the Federal bureaucracy, States will be able to facilitate locally led, and truly voluntary programs that will help protect the river for future generations. This legislation encompassing all heritage areas has broad bipartisan support, I would like to thank the Resources Committee for bringing this legislation forward and I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my vote on rollcall votes 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 631, 632, 633. In addition, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 628, 629, and 630.

IN HONOR OF STIRLING D. SCRUGGS, DIRECTOR, INFORMATION, EXECUTIVE BOARD AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION DIVISION—UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, at the end of this year, Stirling Scruggs will be retiring after 22 dedicated years with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Stirling is a living example of the ideals behind the creation of UNFPA and the United Nations itself. A former high school football star in Tennessee, Stirling had many opportunities open to him in life. But his overriding ambition was one that so many of us shared in our youth: to make a difference in the world. Stirling has remained true to his youthful ideals and has made a difference, a substantial difference measured in millions of women and babies that survived because of his dedication and efforts; measured in the essential bonds between mothers and their children who survived to know each other and in the love of husbands and fathers who, rather than seeing their wives and children die in childbirth, have had long and full lives with their loved ones.

In speaking with his colleagues, there are three words that are always repeated when they describe Stirling Scruggs—Passion, Integrity and Kindness.

Passion: Stirling Scruggs has worked in some of the poorest places in the world. He has seen first hand the deprivations and struggles that hundreds of millions—in fact, billions of people—bear every hour, every day, every week throughout the year. Stirling Scruggs brings to his work a passion that bespeaks his own compassion and his own commitment to the cause of basic health, women and voluntary family planning around the world.

Integrity: Stirling combines his passion with unshakable integrity. He is unwavering in his commitment to basic health and rights for all the world's people. He has stood up for these ideals in some of the most difficult circumstances, including in China, where he worked tirelessly—as UNFPA does—to convince the Chinese about the greater wisdom of a voluntary, rights-based approach to family planning. Stirling Scruggs is a monument to personal integrity and professional dedication.

Kindness: Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Stirling brings to his work a core kindness—not only in his outlook to the dispos-

sessed in our world, but in his dealings with all people. Stirling always has a kind word and a warm smile for those he works with, on behalf of and for. He is a tender man, who has a compassionate outlook toward those less fortunate and a compassionate manner with everyone he relates to.

There are few better, kinder men than Stirling Scruggs. He has represented the United States so well in the United Nations system. All Americans can be proud of the service he has rendered and we all wish him well as he continues his efforts to make the world—and each of us—a little better.

TRIBUTE TO WESLEY HEDSTROM

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to former Cook County Commissioner Wesley Hedstrom, who passed away on November 7, 2003.

Wes Hedstrom was born in 1924 in Grand Marais, Minnesota, the youngest of thirteen children. After graduating from Grand Marais High School in 1942, Wes joined the U.S. Army and served during World War II. Returning to Minnesota, Wes, along with five of his brothers, took over operation of their father's business, Hedstrom Lumber, and he was company president from 1986 to 2000. In 1984, Wes was elected to the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on which he served for the next 16 years.

Except for the few years he was in the Army, Wes lived his entire life in Grand Marais, a small fishing town along Minnesota's north shore. Many people say that Wes was largely responsible for the enormous growth of his family's lumber business, turning it into one of the region's largest and most successful companies. For Wes, however, it was more than a business; it was a way of life. He had extensive knowledge of lumber and the woodlands. I learned more from Wes about forestry, forest management and sustainable yield forestry than from any other source.

Wes understood the need for balance between the lumber industry and protections for the environment. He applied that fair-minded attitude to all the projects he worked on in the community, both as a County Commissioner and as a civic volunteer. From the renovation of a local hospital, to the creation of a new airport, to the advocacy for education funding, Wes worked to nurture people, find a consensus, and do what was in the public's best interest. That was his signature and his trademark.

Some called him an activist. Others said he was a pioneer. All who crossed his path considered him a friend. I knew Wes since he worked on my first Congressional campaign in 1974, and over the years, I marveled at his friendliness, magnanimity and selflessness. To me, Wes was a teacher, counselor and partner in ventures for the Northland, and he was a good friend to me. He was one of those rare people who truly made a difference in his community. I know my colleagues join me in honoring Wes Hedstrom for his many years of dedicated service to his town, his State and his country.

COMMENDING DENTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker I rise today to recognize the Denton Housing Authority to commend them for receiving three National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) Merit Awards in Tampa, Florida this year.

The Denton Housing Authority has been active in the North Texas community for years, working hard to provide quality public and affordable housing. This year at the 2003 NAHRO awards ceremony, the Denton Housing Authority was recognized for their achievements in Program Innovation for Resident and Client Services. NAHRO President Kurt Creager said, "These agencies are accomplishing remarkable levels of service for their communities and their residents. They are setting up programs and establishing standards that can be duplicated by other housing authorities around the country."

The Denton Housing Authority was recognized for three of their programs. The ARTS program brings together the DHA, University of North Texas, Center for Public Service, and Greater Denton Arts Council to provide an arts program and promote social skills for disadvantaged youth in low-income neighborhoods. The New Direction of Community Oriented Policy Services (COPS) program partners with the Denton Police Department to encourage community outreach services to create and sustain safer neighborhoods. Also, the Phoenix After-School Program teams with the University of North Texas and DHA to encourage social and academic success for socially challenged youth 4–11 years old living in the Phoenix Development. These are the kind of great programs that will create a better society in the future by giving our youth a strong foundation and forming a safer environment for our neighborhoods.

Once again, I would like to express my sincere congratulations to the Denton Housing Authority for their innovation and hard work in providing community outreach services to the City of Denton and surrounding communities.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID A. WIRSING

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to my colleague and friend in Illinois, David A. Wirsing, State Representative from the 70th district. Dave went home to be with the Lord suddenly on Sunday, November 16, 2003. He leaves a loving wife of over 40 years, Nancy, four grown children—Mark, Steven, Angela and Susan—and 11 grandchildren.

Dave Wirsing was a friend in the truest sense of the word. He was a man of deep personal faith, a loving and faithful husband to Nancy and a wonderful father to his four children. He spent the majority of his life in agriculture as a former pork producer and grain